

Silent Worker

"The foundation of every State is the education of its youth."—Dionysius.

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At School and at Play With Helen Keller

BY ROBERT H. MOULTON

THE outdoor sports of Helen Keller and her proficiency in them despite her deprivation of sight, hearing and speech, is one side of her remarkable life of which little is known, although so much has appeared in the public prints about her.

It was my good fortune to attend the same school with her in New York for two years, where we were both taking college preparatory courses, and later to spend parts of several summers at her home in Wrentham, Mass.

During this time we became fast friends, and I had every opportunity to study her carefully. But though I saw and conversed with her daily I was continually astonished by some new phase of her wonderful mind and her no less remarkable nature.

How she came to be so fully informed about many of the things of which we could speak was always a puzzle to me. Sometimes I fancied that she absorbed knowledge from people about her through some intangible psychic process and without the need of visible means of communication.

She has always tried to be "like other people," and so her habit of speaking of things as they appear to those who see and hear has become second nature with her. Indeed, her whole life since her education was begun has been a series of attempts to do whatever other people do. This unconquerable desire has manifested itself not in her mental achievements, but in her physical accomplishments as well.

LEARNS TO RIDE WHEEL.

There is hardly any form of outdoor sport, except where sight is an absolute requisite, in which Helen Keller has not taken an interest and made some progress.

One summer a friend made her a gift of a tandem bicycle. At first thought it appeared that a more useless present could not have been given her, but she was of a different mind and vowed she would make use of it.

Being rather at home on the bicycle myself, I thought she could fare no worse under

my tutorage than that of anyone else, and after a little persuasion Miss Sullivan agreed



HELEN KELLER

to let us try it together.

I had my misgivings when we took our seats, the wheel being supported for us, but when we had been given a start in the shape of a generous shove from a half-dozen hands I found no special effort necessary to keep the machine erect and moving. After a few lessons my companion acquired the knack of balancing herself correctly and thereafter everything was easy.

All the steering was done from the rear

seat, and I arranged a little system of signals in the form of sundry taps which I was to make on her shoulder when it became necessary to dismount or to increase or decrease speed. I cannot recall that we ever had a serious accident of any kind, although ten or fifteen mile trips were a daily occurrence throughout the summer.

Now and then we came to a particularly rough bit of road where it became necessary to slow up to such a degree that the wheel would fail to fall over simply from lack of inertia. Miss Keller would pick herself up out of the dust, laughing, and declare that it was great fun to get such a shakeup occasionally.

When on a long, level stretch of road we would make frequent "sprints," and the more rapid the the better she was pleased. The swift rush through air, with the wind blowing in her face seemed to afford her more intense enjoyment than any other form of exercise, though her other outdoor diversions were numerous.

She quickly learned to

LIKES TO ROW BOAT

row a boat, and, while it was usual for some one to sit in the stern and manage the rudder, she would sometimes row without it. On such occasions it was merely necessary for the boat to be pointed in a particular direction, and then her delicate sense of touch enabled her to keep the oars so evenly poised that she could maintain a straight course for almost any distance.

When it was her pleasure simply to row about at random she guided the boat, or rather kept it from running aground by the scent of water grass and lillies, and the bushes on the shore.

She was also fairly expert at canoeing. In writing to a friend on this subject she said:

"I enjoy canoeing even more than rowing, and I suppose you will laugh when I say that I especially like it on moonlight nights. I cannot, it is true, see the moon climb up the sky behind the pines and steal softly

across the heavens, making a shining path for us to follow, but I know she is there, and as I lie back among the pillows and put my hand in the water I fancy that I feel the shimmer of her garments as she passes.

SWIMMING ONE OF HER SPORTS.

Sometimes a daring little fish slips between my fingers, and often a pond lily presses shyly against my hand.

"Frequently, as we emerge from the shelter of a cove or inlet, I am suddenly conscious of the spaciousness of the air about me. A luminous warmth seems to enfold me. Whether it comes from the trees which have been heated by the sun or from the water I can never discover.

"I have had the same strange sensation even in the heart of the city. I have felt it on cold, stormy days and at night. It is like the kiss of warm lips on my face."

Being so accomplished on the water it was natural that Miss Keller should want to prove her ability in it, so she began to take swimming lessons, and in a fortnight was not only able to swim quite a distance, but to dive, and even to swim a little under water.

Horseback riding was another of her favorite sports, and with some one else as guide, she would go galloping over the country with absolute fearlessness.

Physical fear seems to be an unknown emotion with her, although she exercises the greatest caution when the need of it exists.

In winter she was fond of skating, and there was no toboggan slide too long or too steep for her to attempt.

CHECKERS FOR INDOOR AMUSEMENT.

Chief of Miss Keller's indoor amusements was the game of checkers. A friend had made for her a specially devised board, the squares being cut out so that men would stand in them firmly. The black checkers were flat and the white ones round on top, and there was a hole in which fitted a brass knob to distinguish the kings from the common.

In playing she would first run her hands quickly and lightly over the board to get a mental picture of the grouping, then make her move, and so play on, following her opponents' maneuvers as easily as one who sees.

I flattered myself upon being an exceptionally good player at checkers, and first when teaching her the game, I allowed her to win occasionally. But after a few days' practice the need of this concession on my part began to dwindle away and at the end of a few weeks I found I had to do my best to win a fair percentage of the games we played.

She appeared to comprehend what was going on about her, and to understand the feelings of those in whose company she happened to be, even when quite left out of the general conversation.

When actually in touch with anyone she always responded to every mood perfectly and instantly. She would sometimes speak with amazing intelligence upon subjects which no one could remember having more than briefly mentioned to her.

I recall that at the beginning of our first year together at school New York was in the midst of a great civic revolution which had for its purpose the overthrow of a political organization in that city. A casual remark upon my part one day suggested this campaign to Miss Keller, and immediately she launched into an exhaustive review of the situation, the surprising thing about it

being that all of her information on the subject seemed to have been gleaned from one short newspaper item, which had been read to her several weeks before.

KEEN SENSE OF HUMOR.

The characteristic which struck me most forcibly in the beginning of our acquaintance of humor, a trait that one would least expect to find in a person situated as she is.

She was quick to perceive the meaning of the most subtle joke, and would even display rare patience in trying to discover the point of a dull one, while her skill in the use of words made her ready with repartee.

Upon one occasion I asked her if she had finished with her work for the day.

"Yes," she said, "I have discharged all of my duties."

"Were they so bad," I asked, "that you had to discharge them?"

"Well," she replied, "it would have been very naughty if I had not discharged them. Besides," she added, her face taking on a roguish look, "isn't this where the idea is taught how to shoot?"

She would essay upon occasions to play a practical joke, but her efforts in this direction usually ended in failure, mainly because her sympathetic nature always prompted her to leave several conspicuous loopholes through which her intended victim might escape.

HER QUICK SYMPATHY.

Her sympathy which is of the quick and ministering sort, is easily awakened by the knowledge of suffering or oppression, and in the cases of dumb creatures sometimes become truly pathetic.

One day I chanced to meet her as I returned from a fishing trip, and when she learned what had been the mission of my excursion she immediately began a discourse on the cruelty of the sport in general, and that part of it relating to the use of bait in particular.

But I told her I had been using "artificial flies," and when I explained to her about them she clapped her hands with delight at what she regarded as emancipation of the luckless worm. Then her face clouded up again and she spoke of the pain endured by the fish.

"But," I said, "think of the good I do. When I catch a large fish I save the lives of a great many small ones, for the old ones are regular cannibals, you know."

This argument seemed to please, even if it did not satisfy her, and I escaped a further lecture.

Miss Keller's touch is, of course, wonderfully developed, and while it is said not to be so acute as some other blind person, it is certainly sufficient for her needs. She remembers anyone with whom she has once shaken hands simply through the individual clasp of the fingers which each person possess.

It is a comparatively easy matter for her to read sentences written on a blackboard by following the chalk marks with her finger.

ACCURATE USE OF THE TYPEWRITER.

When writing letters she uses the typewriter almost exclusively, and her work, while only fairly rapid, is absolutely sure, seldom showing the smallest typographical error. When something personal than a typewritten page is desired she uses a board in which there are narrow parallel grooves, and by pressing the paper down into these she is able to print quite rapidly, her letters being almost as clear and even as engraving.

Both when writing and speaking she de-

scribes things as she saw them, a fact which puzzled me much until I grew to understand that she saw, not with her eyes, but through that inner faculty which our eyes serve.

It is now four years since Helen Keller received her bachelor's degree from Radcliffe college, being undoubtedly the most remarkable girl graduate of that or any similar institution of learning in this country.

That she took the full years' course with honors, in spite of being deaf and blind, and possessing but imperfect powers of speech, acquired after she was 16 years of age, and that she did not work under precisely the same conditions as her more normal classmates, is proof of the so-called higher education of women during the past quarter century.

Radcliffe, which is now Miss Keller's alma mater, is the college for women affiliated with Harvard University and is the legal successor of the Society for the Collegiate Instruction of Women, known to fame as Harvard "annex," organized in 1879.

Born in Tuscumbia, Ala., twenty-eight years ago, she had perfectly developed faculties until, when she was about 3 years old, an illness deprived her of sight, speech and hearing.

The training which made possible the quite unusual scholarship began when Miss Sullivan of the Perkins Institute for the Blind in Boston went South to undertake the education of the child, who was then seven years old. Five years later Miss Keller went to Massachusetts, where she has lived ever since, with Miss Sullivan as a constant companion.

Although she has learned to speak, to hear by touch and to see through the eyes of those about her under her teacher's guidance, she was put in the hands of a special tutor in preparing to enter college, and all the while she was a student at Radcliffe she had to depend upon her own wonderful memory and her keen understanding to a much greater extent than the average college girl has to do.

Miss Sullivan has her ears, so to speak, sitting beside her in the classroom and lecture hall and repeating to her verbatim, hour after hour, by the touch of her fingers on her pupil's hand, every word that was said.

Although her instructors naturally took a special kind of interest in their blind pupil, the Radcliffe authorities made sure that her work would be judged precisely by the same standards as that of other girls.

Miss Keller is now living in Massachusetts, devoting her time to writing and perfecting an organization which has for its purpose the sympathetic education of blind and deaf children in the United States.—*Sunday Record Herald (Chicago), May 31, 1908.*

HELEN KELLER.

Within the casket of her brain she stores,

Like gems of price, each precious word and phrase
To string on golden threads of thought; through
days

And years over the endless task she pores.

Glad in each dear hard-won success she scores;

How eagerly each hard new task essays,

Nor failure e'er her dauntless soul dismays,

Nor once the brave height of her standard lowers.

In darkness and in silence hedged she sings,—

These cannot bound her fair imaginings.

Her soul's fine ear to inner harmonies

Attuned, her silent song is keyed to these;

And past the dark her bright young spirit soars

And realms of light beyond our ken explores.

—Annie L. Johnson.

Those of our subscribers who are in arrears will confer a favor on us by sending in their remittances without further delay.

St. Louis

THE National Association of the Deaf has been weighed and, within recent years, found wanting. The culmination point for rankness in machine politics was reached at its last convention. The hand-writing on the wall decrees that the association should be thoroughly overhauled, or a new one formed on more approved lines, if the deaf of the country are to have a truly efficient national and representative body. Two plans with much the same end in view have been submitted through the silent press during the past year or so and are likely to come up for consideration at some convention in 1910. Either of the plans would be an improvement upon existing conditions. One aims to form a national federation out of the various state associations. The other ignores state lines and proposes to have a national federation composed of whatever associations, unions, societies, leagues, clubs, fraternities, etc., that may meet the reasonable requirements for admission. While a national body composed of state associations exclusively would be correct in theory it would be less likely in actual practice to give as much general satisfaction as would a federation including all of the different kinds of organizations. As machine politics is the bane of the present National Association so, eventually, would machine politics become the bane of state organizations should they be made the unit of the National Association. The machine already has a strangle hold upon some of the state associations in which instead of a membership of several hundred only a few dozen answer roll call at any convention. What plan the committee on federation within the National Association may finally agree upon cannot be forecasted. If it reports a better plan than that submitted by Mr. Douglas Tilden in the SILENT WORKER last spring neither its labors nor those of Mr. Tilden will have been in vain.

The editor of the *Deaf-American* has started off on a new tack by advising the deaf of the country in general and those of Illinois in particular for whom to cast their ballots next November 3rd—advice which is not received with unmixed favor. Assuming that the deaf should vote with the sole object of having the obnoxious civil service ruling rescinded so as to make them eligible for government employment, it is by no means apparent that the desired end would be soon attained by voting for Taft as the *Deaf-American* editor intimates. Roosevelt has upheld the present civil service commission in its ruling against having the deaf enter government employ. Taft, if elected, is expected to uphold the policies of Roosevelt and would not be likely to reverse the Civil Service Commission.

On the other hand Bryan, if elected, would in all probability reorganize that commission thereby giving the deaf another chance to present their claims. The result could not be worse than it has been with the present commission and as the present commission would probably repudiate the rulings of the old as far as it could do so without detriment to the service the chances of having the obnoxious ruling rescinded, would be better under Bryan than under Taft. A class paper like the *Deaf-American*, however, had better keep out of politics.

Oklahoma has very properly placed its

school for the deaf among the educational institutions of the state instead of among those that are charitable, reformatory or penal as obtains in some other parts of the country. The credit for this fitting classification is due to the timely, persistent and well directed efforts of Mr. and Mrs. R. N. Dunham who, until recently, had charge of the school and under whose excellent management it attained its present high efficiency. The profession can ill afford to spare Mr. and Mrs. Dunham, and it is greatly to be hoped that their withdrawal is only temporary.

The appointment of Miss Frances Wood as head teacher of the Illinois School for the Deaf at Jacksonville, will be pleasing news to hundreds of alumni and friends of that venerable institution. By education, temperament and long experience in the profession Miss Wood is pre-eminently qualified

for the position. To Miss Wood and our *Alma Mater* we extend our sincere congratulations.

By resigning his position as superintendent of the Louisiana School for the Deaf at Baton Rouge, it is hoped that Dr. S. T. Walker is not retiring from the profession permanently and that after a much needed rest we will again see him in the harness. Dr. Walker has proven himself to be one of the best of teachers of the deaf and one of the most efficient of superintendents of schools for the deaf this country or any other has produced.

The deaf of Memphis, Tenn., have a warm and devoted friend in Mrs. A. M. Thorpe, (nee Palmer) secretary to the postmaster of that city. Mrs. Thorpe's parents are deaf and are communicants of All Souls' Church for the Deaf, Philadelphia,—the church in which Mrs. Thorpe, when a child, was baptized by the late Rev. Henry Winter Syle—of blessed memory. She is well versed in the sign-language and liberal of her time, talents and means in whatever may promote the welfare of the deaf of her home city. Mrs. Thorpe's husband died some years ago.

The Alumni Association of the Missouri School for the deaf recently had a largely attended convention at which a memorial window to the late Superintendent W. D. Kerr was unveiled in the institution chapel. The association acted wisely when it voted to donate its surplus funds to the Missouri Home for the Deaf.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard L. Terry have followed the example of Aeneas and Dido and taken up their residence in the beautiful, aristocratic and intellectual city of Carthage—in Missouri, of course. Mr. Terry's recently published poems have attracted attention, and brought a request from one of the leading publishing houses of Boston for more with the view of publishing them in book form. There is a niche in the poet's corner for Mr. Terry, but for the present, at least, he thinks Carthage is good enough for him.

According to newspaper reports a movement is on foot to erect a statue of the French explorer Mr. Jean du L'Hut for whom Duluth was named. As there probably exists no reliable likeness of Monsieur L'Hut we venture to suggest that M. Jay Cooke Howard pose for the statue with the index finger of his left hand beckoning to the populace south of the unsalted sea and the index finger of his right pointing to "the company that pays dividends."

Mr. and Mrs. Waldo H. Rothert are once more settled in their Carthage home which they had to vacate during the summer, while it was being remodeled and enlarged. It is reasonably safe to assume that by this time Waldo, Jr., has been able to re-locate the pantry and jam shelf, and is waiting for opportunity to declare dividends with his new brother.

Miss Annie Wilson Phelps has been busy entertaining her parents—Mr. and Mrs. W. Howe Phelps—at her palatial country home, near Carthage, since last June 23rd,—and a most charming little entertainer she is, as all visitors at Howeton Place will testify.

Gallaudet School began its thirtieth year on September 8th, with the largest first day's enrollment in its history. The same teaching force as last year is in charge. Two of its graduates have entered Gallaudet College this fall.

Mr. and Mrs. Sidney King, instructors at the Arkansas State School for the Deaf at Little Rock, stopped over in St. Louis on a recent Sunday, attended services at St. Thomas' Mission, and visited friends. Mrs. King, nee Macy, formerly taught in the local day school when the late Mr. Delos Simpson was in charge and her former pupils here hold her in loving remembrance.

Mr. Robert Erd, instructor in physical training at the Michigan School for the Deaf at Flint, was in the city recently visiting friends. While genial Robert is an efficient instructor in athletics we think he is altogether too active in keeping out of Dan Cupid's way.

The Gallaudet Union picnic at Carondelet Park on Labor Day was a largely attended and highly enjoyable affair. The officers, Mrs. Stocksick and Misses Molloy and Burrow acted as committee in charge to the satisfaction of every one present.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Garrett spent most of their summer vacation at Howeton Place near Carthage taking on tan and muscle preparatory to their return to Baton Rouge, La. at the re-opening of the school.

Mr. J. M. Robertson, a teacher in the Alabama School for the Deaf, spent a brief part of his summer vacation in St. Louis.

While the deaf are not superstitious they do believe in signs.

J. H. CLOUD.

Tilden has a contract to erect a statue to the Mothers of Pioneers, costing about \$8,000.

Mr. Harry S. Smith writes from his home in Rosemont, N. J., that he had quite a hard time of it this past summer. He was camping on the Delaware for a couple of weeks and while there was seized with rheumatism so bad that he had to be taken home in a wagon. He is still under the doctor's care, but hopes to be back to work at his old place in Trenton before long.

Harry Pidcock, was recently discharged from St. Francis Hospital, this city, where he was taken for treatment for rupture. He underwent an operation and after excellent care his friends are glad to know that he is now back to his Lambertville home.

Chicago

EACH of the local organizations of the Chicago deaf had their annual picnics during the summer months. The Pas-a-Pas club started the "season" with its outing on July 4, on August 1st the Lutheran organization had theirs, August 15 was Chicago Division's date and the Catholic club's was given August 22. The season closed with the picnic for the benefit of the Illinois home fund on Labor day, September 7.

All of the outings were well attended and each organization added something to its treasury therefrom. However, the Home fund picnic eclipsed them all in point of attendance and profits, ideal weather, a good cause and determined hustling on the part of the committee contributing to that result. There was hopes that the record held by the picnic of 1906 under the chairmanship of Mr. Kleinhans would be beaten this year, but from returns being given out it seems that it was not accomplished. The following composed this year's committee, which will be credited with adding quite a nice sum to the \$5,000 or so now in the hands of Treasurer Cleary: Ben F. Frank, Chairman; Mesdames H. S. Lefi, Roy Carpenter, H. A. Brimble; Misses Grace Knight, Cora Jacoba; Messrs. Hasenstab, Flick, Kleinhans, Hart, Codman, Dougherty, Craig, Kaufman, Angle, Offerlee.

There are a good many Chicagoans owing allegiance to the Delavan school and a large party from here was in attendance at the reunion of the Wisconsin Association of the Deaf held at Milwaukee, September 3 to 7.

The meeting was said to have been the largest in the history of the association, over 400 being in attendance. An excellent program was arranged by the local committee, which is given below:

PROGRAM.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 8 P.M.

Prayer—Rev. T. M. Wangerin, Pastor Emanuel Congregation for the Deaf.

Address of Welcome—Mayor Rose in behalf of the City of Milwaukee.

Response—H. B. Plunkett, Milwaukee.

Oration—*Rural Occupation as a Means of Livelihood for the Deaf*—R. Dimick, Editor of *The Farmer, Almota*.

FRIDAY, 9 A.M.

Prayer.

President's Address.

"My Work and Experience in the South"—Duncan E. Cameron, Dairying Instructor, Jackson, Miss.

The Eye of the Man—J. C. Howard, Duluth, Minn.

Officer's Report—*Business*—*Appointment of Committees*—*Local Committee's Report*.

FRIDAY, 1.30 P.M.

Prayer.

"The American Industrial Journal"—Prof. Warren Robinson.

Poultry Raising—Mrs. Hypatia Boyd Reed.

Roll Call—*Reports of Officers and Committees*—*Business*—*Banquet Committee's Report*.

FRIDAY, 8 P.M.

Banquet in the Blatz Hotel Dining Hall.

SATURDAY, 9 A.M.

Prayer.

The Wisconsin School for the Deaf and its Advantages—Supt. E. W. Walker, Delavan.

Address: "Associations"—Prof. R. J. Winnie, State Inspector of Schools for the Deaf, Madison, Wis.

Reports of Officers and Committees—*Business*.

SATURDAY, 1:30 P.M.

Prayer.

The Proposed Home for the Aged Deaf—Report from Lars M. Larson, Ex-Superintendent of the New Mexico School for the Deaf.—Discussion opened by Ph. S. Engelhardt, Milwaukee.

SATURDAY, 7.30 P.M.

Prayer.

Roll Call—*Reports of Officers and Committees*—*Business*.

Reminiscences—Arranged by Prof. F. J. Neesam, Delavan.

SUNDAY, 10 A.M., AT THE CONVENTION HALL.

Sermon by Rev. T. M. Wangerin.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7.

Grand Free Excursion to Waukesha Beach per Chartered Car, and Basket Picnic.

The election of officers resulted in the following being chosen: President, Henry B. Plunkett; First Vice-President, Miss Egna Anderson; Second Vice-President, J. O'Neil; Secretary, Mrs. Charles Reed; Treasurer, Emil Weller.

Discussion of the "Proposed Home for the Aged Deaf" put Wisconsin on record as favoring the "inter-state" or "national" home idea, and, we understand, a committee was appointed to confer with representatives of other State associations and formulate a plan for the association to adopt.

Following the action noted above of the Wisconsin Association as to a Home, I am going to again refer to the "National Home" idea, and suggest that every state see that it has delegates at the meeting of the National Association in 1910, who will be duly authorized to act for their respective associations in the matter of adopting such a plan—one like that outlined in the address of President Veditz, delivered to the Colorado Association at its recent meeting, extracts from which I append below:

It has within recent years become quite a fad for state associations of the deaf to start funds for the maintenance of homes for the aged and infirm deaf in their respective states.

New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio already have such homes. Illinois has a "home fund" near the \$5,000 mark. Missouri has the nucleus of such a fund and Indiana is making a start. The Gallaudet Home in New York has a large endowment—I am unable to recall the exact amount, but it is around \$150,000. In Pennsylvania and Ohio, however, the homes are without such an income-yielding fund and are directly supported by the deaf of these states.

These home funds serve a useful purpose. They give the deaf a noble object to think and work, serve to unite them and to lessen the unhappy spirit of cliquism—that seemed to affect the deaf in disproportionate measure, and like the quality of mercy, they are twice blessed, blessing those that give and those that take.

For several years I have been advocating a NATIONAL HOME for the deaf. When we reflect that, all told, there are 50,000 true deaf-mutes in the United States; that of these 50,000 about 25,000 only are adults; and that of these 25,000 about 15,000 only are men employed in gainful occupations, the extravagance and wasted energy of having separate homes in the several states becomes apparent. It is the same as if a city of 50,000 should shoulder the burden of maintaining a separate home in each of 46 wards or precincts.

When such great organizations as the Woodmen of the World with over a million men enrolled, the Elks with nearly three hundred thousand, the Union Printers with, I believe, between fifty and sixty thousand; the letter-carriers with seventy or eighty thousand, and who, with such membership, could much more reasonably support separate state homes, the folly of separate homes, all have or are contem-

plating great national homes, the folly of separate homes for the deaf in the several states becomes more manifest still.

Nevertheless I have editorially, in *The Deaf American* and otherwise, always taken occasion to encourage such movements like that now in progress in Illinois. My contention is that at any future time these associations might dispose of their "home" properties, convert the proceeds into a permanent fund and use the income to send their *pro rata* of beneficiaries to a national home, thus preserving inviolate the object for which the original home was created.

The chief practical objection to a national home is the great distance prevailing in our country. But we should remember we are at the threshold only of the rapid transit problem. The day does not seem far distant when it will cost no more in time and money to go from New York or Philadelphia to Los Angeles than it does to go to Chicago or St. Louis.

Nor should this philanthropy stop with the aged and infirm. There are those stricken with consumption, crippled by accident, or otherwise incapacitated, and for these the "home" should be a SANITARIUM.**

The Chicago *Tribune* is authority for the following—which I give as a Chicago contribution to "Typical Children of Deaf Parents."

St. Mary's academy of Evanston boasts as its brightest graduate this year a girl whose father and mother are mute. Miss Florence Pekin leaves the academy with the highest honor that the school gives—that of the gold medal for Christian doctrine.

Thomas J. Pekin, her father, who is an employe at Calvary cemetery, when asked about his 16 year old girl, could express his pride over her only in the sign language or written words. Mrs. Pekin, a modest little woman living at 200 Rinn street, South Evanston, cannot congratulate her daughter as would other mothers in words of praise, but she, too, is forced to use sign language.

Miss Pekin's marks, according to the records of the school, are the highest that ever have been given to any graduate.

Chicago Division, N. F. S. D., opens its winter season of entertainments with a Halloween ball at Fraternity Hall on October 31.

The Chicago *Inter Ocean* recently chronicled the admission to the bar of a colored deaf man in Virginia and stated it was the second instance of the kind known to the country, mentioning, as the first, that there was one in St. Louis. Can it be that our St. Louis friends have been "hiding their (legal) light under a bushel?"

Milwaukee has in its mayor a man who is able to address the deaf in their own language, Mayor Rose being quite expert in the manual alphabet.

The coming out for Taft and Sherman of the *Deaf American* is something unique in the annals of deaf journalism. The "why" of this seems sound logic—that the deaf should enter politics where their interests are affected. Chicago has been having experience at the game, and, unless we are mistaken, Milwaukee took a hand in its last mayoralty election.

F. P. GIBSON.

The new school for the Colored Deaf and Blind of Virginia will not be open for the reception of the pupils until next year. It will be remembered that Mr. W. C. Ritter, the popular deaf gentleman of Hampton, Va., was chosen Superintendent of the school last spring. The school will be located at Newport News, Va., and preparations are under way for the ceremonies of laying the corner stone. The building will be of red and white brick.

Pennsylvania.

ANOTHER summer has come and gone, and people who go away for the summer are now flocking back. The railroad stations are just now crowded with people hurrying home heavily laden with hand bags, etc, while the baggage rooms are taxed to their utmost with trunks piled mountain high. This practice of going away for the summer seems to have spread to enormous proportions within recent years. I do not recollect that in my younger days, people thought it necessary to go away from home during the dog-days of summer. And yet when one comes to think of it, it is very pleasant to be able for at least a few weeks, if not months, to lay aside business cares and hie one's self to a quiet nook in the country—to fish, row, or enjoy a quiet *dolce-far-niente*—far away from the noise, dust and grime of the busy city streets. Read Henry VanDykes's books on vacation themes. There we learn the charm and true enjoyment of the outing far away from the busy haunts of men. But what do most people do now-a-days? They run to a populous sea-side or mountain resort, where the rush, hurry and noise of the big city are but repeated. They put up at expensive hotels. The men lounge around bars, flirt with the girls and then hurry home far from rested or benefitted by the change. Frequently we are told there is need for them to rest from the strenuousness of their vacation experiences. A neighbor recently told me of a pleasant vacation he spent. Instead of going away he decided to remain at home with his family for a change, and he was surprised how much he enjoyed himself. Long walks and trolley rides into the neighboring country made him acquainted with a surprisingly beautiful and historic neighborhood which he had never seen before. He did not wear himself out, nor tax his pocket-book unduly. When he returned to work at the end of his vacation, it was with quieted nerves and a strong reserve force of energy. Let some of us try such a change, and see how it works.

The Lancaster Convention, owing to the depressed condition of the "labor market" was not as well attended as some other conventions in recent years. Still it made up in enthusiasm what it lacked in numbers. There is no gainsaying the fact that the deaf of Pennsylvania are united in the Association and the Home at Doylestown as those of no other state in the Union. This loyalty to their association and the Home, perhaps may at times make them somewhat jealous and impatient of outside dication or interference. But the question of the Federation of the Deaf received very careful consideration, and it was decided that inasmuch as no one seems just now to know how the thing is to be done, or just what the result will be, the Association prudently referred the whole matter to the Board of Managers of the Association for further investigation. Other important matters coming up before the Committee were the Reports of the Committee on Compulsory Education of the Deaf in the State, the Committee on the Feeble-Minded Deaf of the State, the Committee on the Gallaudet College Alumni Association Endowment Fund, and the trustees of the Home at Doylestown. All these reports were printed beforehand and distributed at the Convention, so that all who attended had before them a clear presentation of the matter before the Convention.

The social side of the Convention was as us-

ual a success. There was a trolley ride around the beautiful old town. Among other interesting scenes that passed before us in review, were: Ex-President Buchanan's home and grave, the Hamilton Watch Factory, the largest silk mill in the world, an immense umbrella factory, and acres and acres of growing tobacco. The people of Lancaster impress one as progressive and home-loving—for the homes every where seemed so beautiful and well kept. On one evening some of the young ladies, mostly from Philadelphia, gave a little play entitled, "Gertrude Wheller," M.D.—the proceeds of the entertainment going to the Home. On the last day, an excursion and picnic was the attraction.

The latter part of August, I attended the dedication of St. Elizabeth's Church for the Deaf, Wheeling, West Virginia. This is the third church in the United States used exclusively for the deaf, and, of course, the cere-



JAMES S. REIDER

Who, as President of the Pennsylvania Society for the Advancement of the Deaf, delivered a masterly address at the Convention in Lancaster, August 28, last.

monies of dedication attracted quite a large congregation of deaf-mutes and their hearing friends—so large in fact that the small church was unequal to housing and seating more than half of those who came—the seating capacity of the church being about one hundred. Except for the stone foundation, it is built entirely of wood. On the first floor or basement is the Guild Room, and on the second floor the Sanctuary. There is much yet to be secured before the church will thoroughly be finished. It needs a heating plant, altar-railing, pews, or chairs, a font, etc. All Soul's Church, Philadelphia, has already donated a beautiful brass altar cross, and many of its chief needs enumerated above have been promised by various friends of the Mission.

The principal address was made by the Rev. O. J. Whilden, the Missionary-in-charge. Others who took part in the services were the Rev. D. W. Howard, of Norfolk, Virginia, but formerly of St. Matthew's, Wheeling, of which church, St. Elizabeth's is a chapel; the Rev. A. W. Mann, of Cleveland, the original missionary, the lay-reader, Mr. J. C. Bremer, and the writer. Four young Wheeling deaf ladies in choir vestments rendered the hymns in signs, while about as many hearing ladies from the choir of St. Matthew's Church, Wheeling, rendered them orally. The Church is some-

what out from the center of the city, but in a part of the new city that promises to be very fashionable in years to come.

The ground on which the church was erected was donated by Mrs. Platoff Zane, in memory of her mother, Mrs. Elizabeth McClurg Steenrod, while the money for the building was raised almost entirely by the deaf themselves.

During the summer there have been, so far as I know, only two weddings among the deaf in and near Philadelphia. The first took place last June 30th, near Chester Springs, when Henry E. Custer was married to Carrie E. Quay, and the second, September 9th, when Herbert Robb, of Philadelphia, took to himself Miss Minnie McAllister. During the same period there have been five deaths chronicled. Casper Max died June 18 at the home of James Oakes, Philadelphia, where he boarded. For many years he was employed at the Baldwin Locomotive Shops: Issac W. Kellam, of Wilmington, Del., died June 25th, aged eighty years. He was an old pupil of the Broad and Pine Streets School.

John Lafferty died on the 6th of July, after a long suffering from cancer. He is survived by a widow.

William Kain, a recent graduate of the Mt. Airy School, living in Port Richmond, Philadelphia, was killed by an Atlantic City Express, at Atco Station, N. J., on the evening of August 1st, while crossing the tracks to take a local train home. He had been playing ball on the Mt. Airy Baseball team against the Atco team that afternoon. The last death chronicled is that of Albert Schriener, which occurred on Saturday morning, September 5th, after six weeks severe illness. His death was a great surprise to his friends as very few knew he had been ill, and he was a man of large physique, and was an athlete of some renown. He leaves a widow, (formerly Miss Anna Auer) but no children.

A Lawn Fete given for the benefit of the Flower Fund of All Soul's Church, in the spacious yards around the residence of Miss Emma J. Shildes in Germantown, on the 20th of June last netted a handsome sum of nearly seventy dollars. When the women undertake to do anything they usually succeed in raising the money they want.

The Rev. G. H. Hefflon, spent the summer at a camp in South Lyndebro, N. H., where he acted as Chaplain, in return for his board and car fare. He is expected back this week.

Miss Frances Stuckert, of Doylestown, engineered a lawn fair on the Home grounds, at Doylestown, on the 22nd of July last. Over seventy-five dollars was realized—all of which goes to the Home.

The excursion of the Delaware County Local Branch of the Pennsylvania Society for the Advancement of the Deaf to Woodland Beach, Del., on Saturday, July 25, was not so great a success as it might have been owing to a heavy down pour of rain that set in early and continued all day. Still there were fifty deaf-mutes who went, and this number with about an equal number of hearing persons, who purchased tickets from the Committee on Arrangements, enabled the Committee to report a fairly good profit for the Home. But those who went had to suffer all sorts of discomforts, being crowded into rather small quarters, and of those who landed at the Beach many got a pretty thorough wetting, among others the writer who was soaked to the skin.

C. O. DANTZER.

PHILA., Sept. 14.

With the Silent Workers

EDITED BY ALEXANDER L. PACH.

I have been cajoled into one of these places and saw a party of half a dozen blow off the all of a \$5.00 bill, just because it was something novel and prohibited.

Funny streak in human nature that delights in doing the forbidden!

The League of Elect Surds of New York bid its friends to join in a merry summer outing at Ulmer Park, in the Borough of Brooklyn, hard by Coney Island, but on the inner shore of Gravesend Bay.

A pier abutting is used daily by hundreds of fishermen, and boatmen of all degree use it as a landing place. Sea food is brought in by the wagon load and sea products, clams by the thousand, are taken out as bait and brought in as food.

So the big hostelry that feeds the multitude daily was sought out by many New Yorkers who dote on the lucious clam and linger lovingly on the lurid lobster—and they went

being tied by bonds of old—these men all range from the early forties to the late fifties—two approach the sixties, and these old boys determined to go off by themselves and have a steak and mushroom dinner at the famed Pedefous Inn on Watchung mountain. The trolley conductor wrote down that the Inn they sought was at the terminus of a branch of the trolley line to which he would transfer us. The exact habitat of said Pedefous was unknown to all alike and the location of his Inn only a matter of conjecture. The end of the line was reached and on alighting, a sign was met with stating:

PEDEFOUS INN

2 MILES

The party who had launched the idea and who knew most of the Inns famed reputé shrunk up to half his usual size and watched to see the effect of this turn in the affair. To his surprise all volunteered to "hoof" the the two miles.

So they started at dusk—you know how straight a bunch of adventitious deaf people walk up a mountain, and in the dark.

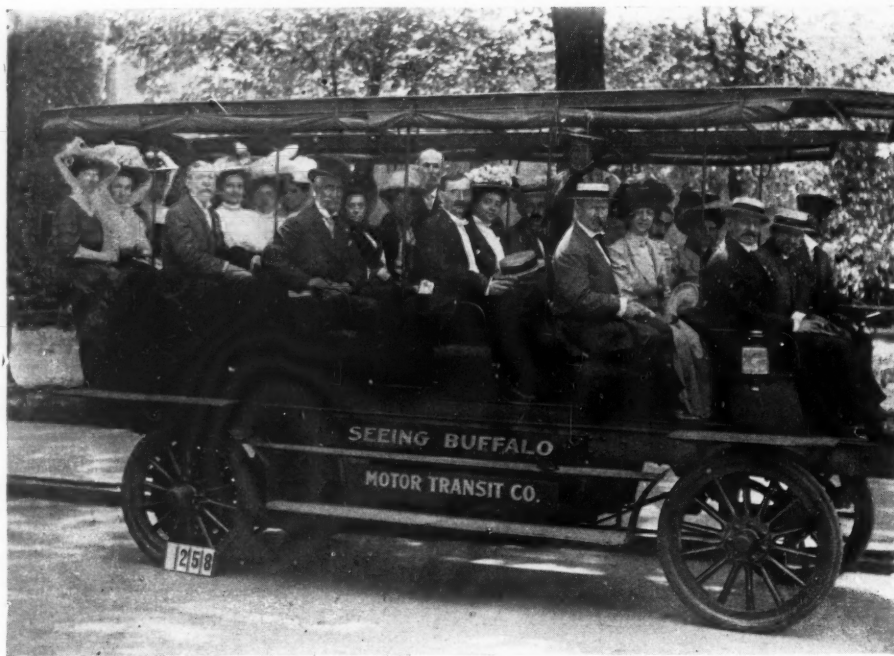
On they walked, and at the end of half an hour, another sign was discovered in the darkness that told how the Pedefous Inn might be found a mile and a half beyond. Grim in determination and spurred on by the impetuous of gnawing stomachs, they walked on. Finally the road became a treacherous mire—a field of engulfing mud covered with a layer

of broken rock, so that the walking meant an immersion of mud for the foot-gear, or painful pedal punches that were ill adapted to low summer shoes. Finally when red lights told of awful going in the high-way a council was held and two found missing—the college men, Fox and Beadell having gone ahead as an advance guard of sappers and miners, gained the coveted goal; enjoyed the feast as well as the fruits of victory.

While the center body, three strong, found themselves cut off from both front and rear, so they set off distress signals by lighting matches, which signals were answered by the rear guard, and a junction effected.

A passing native volunteered that Mr. Pedefous and his steaks and mushrooms were still a mile away over the mountain and the going was even worse, for the rest of the distance. Retreat was ordered and at the end of an hour they found themselves back in the environs of Plainfield and a trolley car soon did the rest. Plainfield's food supply having been exhausted by a hungry Labor Day horde, it was necessary to journey 25 miles away to Jersey City, where, four hours after their intended feast they sat down hungry and tired to a sumptuous feast in the Jersey Central Terminal Restaurant.

It was labor day—and we had labored!



AUTOMOBILE PARTY OF THE E. S. A. DELEGATES AT BUFFALO

WELL, it seems to have been an off year for conventions. The Ogden meeting did not draw the hoped for attendance, but the sole reason was the pig-headed obstinacy of the Trunk Line Associations which granted no concessions worth speaking of.

The Grand Lodge of Elks met in Texas and because of the high rates whole States sent no delegations.

The Presidential Nomination meetings at Chicago and Denver were small in comparison to former years, when sightseers by the thousand went along with the delegates.

In Pennsylvania, where previously the P. S. A. D. invariably secured a cent-a-mile rate, the fare this year was the legal two cents—the same for one or one thousand persons.

In spite of the fact that the low rates were not to be had, the Empire State meeting at Buffalo was a success, though as has been commented on the Buffalo Buffalonians, except for the reception (which was free) did not turn out to give the E. S. A. a helping hand.

The residents of Buffalo could join in the good work of the E. S. A., at almost almost no expense, and yet of some four hundred there, only five joined the association.

On the other hand, a dozen dozen from New York city journeyed across the state travelling nearly 9,000 miles, spending \$200 for car fare alone, just to show loyalty to the Empire State Association.

From New York city came the "Old Guard," without whom the association could not exist from year to year with any certainty that the elected officers would show up at the subsequent meeting.

In the strictly religious atmosphere of Ocean Grove, N. J., where even cigars are not to be had even on a week day, and where no wheel is permitted to turn in the street on a Sunday—not even the iceman's nor yet the milkman's, in the year 1908, might be seen a handsome delivery wagon displaying the advertisement, "Columbia Water Co." and the uninitiated would be surprised to know that the article purveyed, while having water as one of its ingredients, also has an admixture of sundry malted matter added, so that the actual delivery is plain, plebian beer.

What would dear old Dr. Stokes say could he know how his community have degenerated?

Funny thing about Ocean Grove and its sister city Asbury Park where the sale of liquor is presumably prohibited, is that people who go there, when at their own homes never think of entering a saloon, make a bee-line for one of the places where they put a piece of ice in a glass, and another of lemon, has added to it a dash of seltzer, and perhaps still another concomitant.

away having dined on mere plebian roast beef and such, because this big food emporium had absolutely nothing eatable in the sea food lines except sardines, and these had been a long time hermetically sealed in tin cans.

And this on the water's edge, too!

Speaking of food-foundries "and sich": On Labor Day the New Idea Club held a summer outing at the superb hostelry of mine host, and mine hostess, Mr. and Mrs. "Billy" Deegan at Scotch Plains. Before Mr. Deegan kept a hotel he was one of the way-ups in handling a base-ball from the pitcher's box.

The New Ideaites couldn't have found a better place for a quiet outing than the big play-ground in the rear of the Deegan Inn, which is an old-time Colonial structure dating back over a hundred years.

Towards meal-time it was found that the Deegan chefs was so much occupied in getting up a big dinner for the hundred odd New Ideals, that their facilities were taxed beyond serving the steak and mushroom dinners the Inn is famed for.

But there was Editor Hodgson of the *Journal* and Editor Beadell of the *Observer*, School-master Fox, and manufacturer Heyman and the stately Soper, as well as the diminutive Kohlman—and the writer, and

Of all the conventions held by the Sate Associations, the North Carolina one certainly spoke out loudest, if we may judge by some of the speeches and the still more forceful resolutions. If the allegations made are true, something should come out of it all. For one I hope the State of affairs is different from what appears and what is charged.

◆
In New York city a public day school for the deaf is to be started with a Principal and a corps of twenty-five teachers. The publicity promoter of the enterprise sent out misleading statements to the daily papers, and the *Times* and *Herald*, among others, published the (evidently) purposely untrue stories without any effort to verify the facts.

The published information that prior efforts to teach the deaf of New York were confined to what were literally asylums. The hundreds of graduates of Fanwood, Lexington avenue, Fordham, Westchester and Brooklyn surely ought to rise in their might and crush the lying enterprise that seeks to build itself up by a calumny, and by branding hundreds of educated self-respecting, self-supporting deaf people by such foul and outrageous innuendo.

For a time, perhaps, this new school may get along, but when parents find that New York city's deaf people can be educated in the finest schools of the world; can acquire a trade that will ensure an honorable livelihood and a competence and that, on graduation, if it is desired, a collegiate education may be added, all the time offering the same advantages to the poorest and the richest without the necessary expenditure of a penny on the part of a parent, then the exposure of the pupil to daily perils of the street, both to mind and to body and to many other evils, and the absence of the necessary and vital manual training, will soon convince both parent and educator that they are up against an essentially wrong and criminally cruel proposition and there is the end of your oral day school!

◆
George W. Veditz is, to use a homely term, "Johnny-on-the-spot" in the matter of civil service discrimination against the deaf and has had the temerity to put it up to both Mr. Taft and Mr. Bryan as to what they will do if elected.

Judge Taft comes out square on the issue, while Mr. Bryan evades it on the technicality that he will uphold his party's platform. As it is handled by both parties, it seems conclusive that President Taft will treat us square. Of course, he is going to be elected and this will be another feather in the cap of Brother Veditz savors strongly of shop though to use the word feather in speaking of the National Association's President, talk.

◆
Just came across a poem made of excelsior—no—I mean a parody on "Excelsior" entitled "Gallaudet." Here is a sample verse:

"Beware the awful midnight crams,
Beware the cheating in exams!
This was an old grad's fast good bye.
Far up the track came a sigh,
Gallaudet!"

Gee! Aint it awful Mabel?

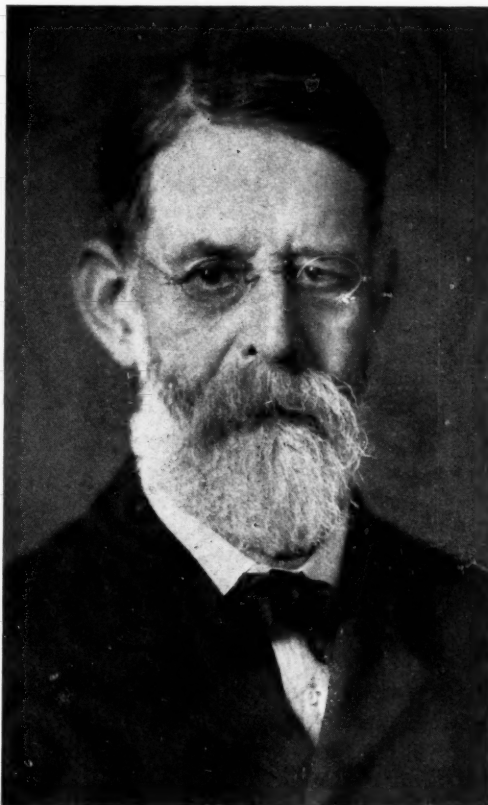
◆
One of our delightful literary young woman's initial contribution for the fall campaign begins:

The delightful summer months have flitted away all too fast. Fall is again with us and again with it comes the urgent call to us to return to our respective posts of duty.

Yes and bye and bye winter—but what's the use—The seasons follow with such regularity!

Mr. J. H., a "grass widower," is praying to the star every night that his wife, who, a few weeks ago, went to her sisters in New Hampshire on a cheerful visit, will join him to-day.

The above is a news item by a *Journal* correspondent. The suggestion that she absented herself on a "cheerful visit," may or not be "between the line reading," but Mr. J—H—'s prayer ought to be answered.



WILLIAM WADE, THE DEAF-BLIND'S FRIEND.

Here is another of those always timely "Letters" from Mr. Wade:

OAKMONT, PA., MAY 13, 1908.

DEAR MR. PACH:—Yours of the 8th, received. No, the Wade girls and boys you saw at Morganton were hardly "the cream" of the school, (except as far as being drilled, and drilled, and again drilled, into that Lord's Prayer in unison orally, that so enthused our good friend Mr. Booth); (I saw the drilling) for I must have a dozen others that were not at the Convention; and, switch me, if I can tell which is the brighter, sweeter, or manlier, except that is the one sitting nearest to me at the time.

Funny, but the best average English is divided between two oral girls and two oral boys, and two pure manual girls and the biggest brained, most full, and rounded mind, is that of a chemically Pure manual girl.

And what *all* teachers ought to teach, and what *some*, both oral, and manual, do teach, this from a friend, is worth citing: "The old teacher did teach proprieties and everyday formalities. The new teacher is a Normal School girl, waiting to get married. What can we expect?" Well, perhaps, perhaps; I know a few "waiting ones," and they make me mighty tired.

But I know, not a few, who are honestly bent on doing their whole duty to the minds and hearts entrusted to them.

And how fearfully the "waiting ones" are neglecting the opportunity of most thoroughly fitting themselves for their purposed end?

What higher fitting for a woman's noblest work, making a good wife and a good mother, can a young woman have than faithful teaching of the deaf, except in the same teaching of the blind-deaf? Such a teacher has made intelligent, loving, sympathising devotion to her work, her constant daily aim, and what better fitting for wifehood and motherhood can a woman have? Look here! You have known such teachers: some of them have married; was woman ever more blest than their husbands?

I know two teachers of the blind-deaf who have married, and I *know* poz-poz and King's English, that their husbands would not trade places with Der Kaiser.

One other (and beauty of the class) recently wrote me of her soon-to-come marriage, and I had to write her that while the body of such teachers would suffer grievously, the world would gain enormously of having one more thoroughly good wife.

Of course, there is the other side, the "scratch cat," and the only hope the world has when she marries, is that she will marry a tomcat, as "It would be a pity to spoil two families."

Henry Drummond wrote: "God's forgiveness of sinners is wonderful; but his patience with ill-natured saints is a deeper mystery." But hang me if I can believe that ill-natured saints will "climb the golden stairs," they would be out of place.

That reminds me of the old fellow who said: "It wont be heaven for me if Mary Ann aint thar!"

Yours truly,

WILLIAM WADE.

◆
In previous letters I have spoken of the fact that the deaf, are not, as a rule, good patrons of their fellow deaf.

Several times this season I have been asked to buy tickets for events given for and by the deaf, and when I looked the ticket over, and asked if it was the work of one of the city offices run by deaf men, I got "I don't know" for an answer, and once or twice was told that they came from outsiders because the work was cheaper.

To me it seems that a "Union Label," that is a Union of the Deaf who will say to each other, "Do the best you know how, and charge a fair price, and I will give you all the work in your line that I have and can influence.

I have mentioned printing, because the Ellsworth, Lounsbury, Russell and Rose printing offices are well equipped, up-to-date places that can turn out most anything in the printing line and all four of the men, Ellsworth, Lounsbury, Russel and Rose are energetic go-aheaditive men, who have ever been in the front rank where charitable or beneficial projects were under way, and it is the only of commonest of common sense that dictates that when deaf people want work they produce, they ought to give them the first chance.

◆
It's just so in other lines. I know a cobbler here in the city, who was my sole (and heel) support for sometime, and was the best I ever came across. If just the members of his church had given him their work, he would have made a good living at it, but they didn't. He charged a few more pennies than his competitors did. Rather, I should say, he used honest leather and it cost more than his competitors used, so he had to ask a little more, for the extra quality, and you got it back in the extra wear, but he isn't working at his trade. There was not enough in it, and he is making a living getting much less than he ought to be earning, in another direction.

ALEX. L. PACH.

Mr. Winfield S. Rund has quit teaching in Dakota and gone into the Real Estate and Investment business with his brother. The Company is located in Berkeley, California, and has a business of over \$20,000.

Silent Worker

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GEORGE S. PORTER, Publisher.

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REJECTED MANUSCRIPTS will not be returned unless stamp is enclosed.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE SILENT WORKER, Trenton, N. J.

HAIL, term of 1908-9!

THE old familiar faces of our school exchanges are again appearing at our desk.

TRENTON has the widest side-walks and the narrowest pavements of any town we know.

THERE is no more home-like or beautiful "Home" for the aged and infirm in our country than that for the deaf at Doylestown.

School Days

It seems but yesterday that we left for home and yet here it is October, and we are all settled away in our niches at school, pursuing the old routine. The most pleasing feature of our opening has been the promptitude with which our children have returned. On the morning of the 16th we had not one for breakfast; at supper there were over a hundred, and on Thursday morning all class work was going on as usual. There has not been a single serious accident to one during their sojourn at home, and only about half dozen, all told, have failed to come back. Our buildings have been beautified in every way, having been painted inside and out and having had all necessary repairs and furnishings, and they were never in better condition for the reception of our little charges. The work begins under the best of auspices, and there is every augury of a term full of benefit to all.

King Words from Afar

AMONG the many kindly greetings that are here to welcome us, as we open our sanctuary desk for the season of 1908-1909, are the following from the Assistant Secretary of the National Union of France:

ROUEN, FRANCE, August 20, 1908.

MY DEAR SIR:—Allow me to send you by this day's post the current number of the *Monde Si-*

lencieux, the quarterly organ of the National Union of the French Societies. I trust that it and the following number I propose to send you may find as warm a place with you as your esteemed paper does with us and may I express you the hope that our policies may find fraternal echoes and that the relations between the American and French deaf-mutes will daily strengthen and become more cordial. I thank you sincerely for the numbers of the SILENT WORKER. Pray let me assure you of my most sincere good wishes that you may have all success in your endeavors to elevate the moral and material welfare of the Deaf.

EDMUND PILET,

Assistant Secretary of the National Union and Secretary of the Editing Committee of the *Monde Silencieux*.

Thanks, Bro. Pilet, the same to you.

A Few Figures

COLONEL Charles Larned in a recent magazine article, gives his experience while conducting examinations for admission to government academies at West Point and Annapolis, and his figures in relation to the matter are certainly somewhat surprising. The candidates come from the high schools of every congressional district of every state and territory in the United States, and from such sources a high degree of intelligence may be reasonably expected. The examinations are in grammar, composition, geography, history, algebra and geometry, all simple enough subjects, and yet there were nearly 40 per cent of failures. The Colonel instance F.—, from a state that boasts of the finest public schools in the land. He says of him:

"F." from ———, had been ten years in a grammar school and five months at a technological high school. He made in algebra 33; in geometry 15; in grammar 36; in composition and literature, 46; in geography 52; in history 52—failing in everything. He was under the impression that the Seine is in Northern Russia, the Ebro in Western France. He writes 'orbet,' 'gess,' 'orther,' 'cival,' 'barbarious,' 'cural' (for cruel), etc. He conceives of Rome as embracing 'all Italy the Holy Land or Jerusalem'; and of Feudalism, as 'one family making war on another in their Castles'; of the War of the Roses as between Cromwel and the King; of the Reformation as the changing of the people from 'the evil ways to a more christian way of living.' He is severe on the Inquisition, which he reproaches as 'barbarious methods resorted in order to try a person's religion. These methods were very cural.' As to the causes of the war for the Union, he judges that 'slavery was the main aggitation. So Carolina done most of the disputting and finely ceceded'—which cannot be gainsaid. His grammar is no less original in conception. 'If—is an infinitive. It gives ground to make the sentence possible and if removed causes to become inoperative.'.....

Nor does this appear to be an uncommon case, the majority seeking admission evincing a woeful lack of knowledge of the 3 R's and of information upon the most ordinary subjects.

A further fact commented on by the Colonel is the one that 30 per cent show physical deficiency. On the whole the showing is lamentably bad, and we do not wonder at Mr. Larned's inquiry, "What does an educational system amount to that shows such a deficiency in its output?"

The Work of Our Hands

THE intellectual growth of our boys and girls has been, at times, a matter of considerable solicitude to us. The great handicap under which they start their school-life, without language, without words, without, indeed, any basis for an education, continues with them, to some extent, through their whole scholastic career, and their attainments in this direction seldom reach those of the hearing child; but with their industrial work the case is quite different. The making of things and the doing of useful work is to them a delight, and the success they attain at their trade is frequently far greater than that attained by the average man or woman.

Results heretofore obtained have been most encouraging; but we do not wish to stop at these. The opinions of our graduates would doubtless be of value to us, and to get the benefit of their experience, we have addressed the following circular to them:

THE NEW JERSEY SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF,
TRENTON, N. J., Sept. 1, 1908.

DEAR SIR:—With our added facilities, it is desired to increase to the utmost the efficiency of our Trades Department.

To this end, we could like an expression of opinion from our graduates, and if you will forward us the answers to the following inquiries you will aid us greatly in forming conclusions relative to the work.

Very respectfully,
JOHN P. WALKER,
Superintendent.

1. What is your name and present address?
2. How long were you a pupil at the Institution, and what trade did you learn while there?
3. How many years did you work at this trade while a pupil and for how many hours a day?
4. What trade have you followed since, and what is your present occupation?
5. Which do you consider the best trades for the deaf, and which of least value to them?
6. What trades would you recommend as ones that should be added to those now taught here?
7. Please state the names of all deaf persons engaged in any kind of work in your neighborhood?
8. What do they do and with what success?
9. What improvements can you suggest upon the methods now employed in teaching trades in the Institution?
10. Have you any further suggestions to offer upon the subject?

We should be most glad to have an expression of opinion upon the subject from all our deaf friends and trust that we may hear from many beside those with whom we have communicated.

Opening the Season

JOSEPH Caldwell, of Pittsburg, is among the first to come to grief on the football field, this fall. He has, however, only lost an ear.

School and City

Lots of visitors now-a-days.

We are already by the autumnal equinox.

What has become of the robin's liquid note?

Our chestnut trees are bearing wonderfully this year.

Isaac Lowe was called home to the funeral of his grandfather on Friday.

Mr. Geo. Lloyd and his class spent Friday afternoon at Cadawalader Park.

A chestnut hunt, in which all hands will take part, will be held in October.

Harriet Alexander is in mourning for her black cat that died during the summer.

The basket-ball team is in daily training and games are being scheduled for the season.

Chestnutting parties are all the vogue now-a-days, but the finds as yet have not been very large.

Walter Throckmorton has taken a position with Wesley Breese on the staff of the *State Gazette*.

The trees and lawns were never more beautiful and there is no nicer spot in Trenton than our own.

Florence Miller can tell you as much about the Olympic games in London as any school girl in Trenton.

Robert Logan visited Medford during the summer and had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Sharp there.

Katherine Tieney and Arthur Stokes, tots of seven, were among the first of our new pupils to arrive.

Willie Battersby, small as he is, held down a job, during the summer, that paid him five dollars a week.

Instead of idling away his Saturdays, Thomas Crowell spends them working on North Warren street.

There was a barrel of pennies tucked away in one place and another, awaiting the great Inter-State Fair.

The prevalent epidemic of colds has reached us and a number of the teachers and assistants are sufferers.

The first re-union of the term was held on Saturday evening and everybody seemed to thoroughly enjoy it.

It is surprising how many of our boys and girls held positions in one capacity or another, during the summer.

The racing at the fair was of especial interest to Arthur Blake because a friend of his had a horse entered.

A box of goodies and a shower of postal cards reminded Anthony Zaachman of his birthday on the 28th.

Of the three fine young walnut trees grown from the seed in the spring, only one has survived the drought.

For the first time in many years there is not a single change in either our educational or household corps this fall.

Frank Parella tells us that he is working on phonograph records, a singular occupation, to be sure, for a deaf boy.

Annie Bissett visited Mamie German during the summer and was delightfully entertained by Mamie and her sister.

We all miss William Henry and William Flannery very much. They were two of the finest monitors we have ever had.

The Norway maple is our shade-tree par excellence, its leaves coming early and remaining long after all the rest are gone.

Our accretion of books, during the past month, has been but seventeen, the smallest number in any month for a long time.

Alas! and alack! we are again crowded to doors and a score or more that we can not possibly receive on account of lack of room.

Carmine Pace is developing a great deal of skill as a wrestler and it already takes three of our best boys to put his shoulders to the mat.

The postal pictures which Vallie Gunn had taken, during vacation, could not have been better if she had paid ten dollars a dozen for them.

The budget of pictures that Miss Dellicker brought home from Boston, Salem and Long Island was of the greatest interest to her class.

Dawes Sutton's experiences among his pigeons and chickens and in catching rats in his barn are very interesting to his classmates.

Mabel Zorn, little as she is, came all the way from home alone, bringing with her a grip that a big man would not want to carry very far.

Goldie Sheppard, who left us in the spring on account of impaired health, has returned, we are glad to say, in most excellent physical condition.

The chimes of Big Ben which became temporarily, a bit deranged, last winter, have been restored, and now have all of their pristine charm.

Hartley Davis witnessed three large fires during the summer and, singularly enough, all three were barns. In one two horses were burned to death.

Men may come and men may go but it looks as if old Neddy Horse, who came to us very soon after our school was started, would go on forever.

Florence Miller, though a new arrival, is the tallest girl in the school. Her speech is clear-cut and natural and her lip-reading is improving every day.

Viola McFadden, one of our new pupils was last year at the Indiana school. Her family recently settled in Glassboro, and Viola is now a Jersey girl.

We all feel very bad about the fact that a watermelon disappeared from in front of Mr. Thompson's store up the street, last Saturday, just as one of our boys was passing there.

Maude Griffith was the recipient of a long letter from Marie Sieben the other day. Marie Sieben, Fannie Brown and Sadie Penrose were the only three girls to leave us, this year.

The majestic Delaware, once majestic, has sadly dwindled during the recent drought, and our baby Hartpence could almost wade across, at its deepest point, just now.

The question as to what team shall win the National League pennant is as anxiously discussed by our boys as the question of the coming Chief Executive.

"I am delighted to come back to school," says Harry Dixon in a recent journal, and Harry's sentiments seem to be echoed by every boy and girl in our school.

The interior painting done by Mr. Newcomb, Walter Hedden and Walter Throckmorton was thorough and workmanlike and no professional could have done better.

Our children take a deep interest in the coming presidential election, and, strangely enough, the majority of the girls favor one candidate and the majority of the boys the other.

Last spring Lillie Stasset lost twenty-five cents through a crack in the east portico. On the 17th of Sept. carpenters repairing there found it and returned it to her. Rather a singular piece of good luck!

The rattlesnake is quite rare in our state, but Hans Hansen was unfortunate enough to run across one while at home, or rather the snake was unfortunate, for Hans promptly dispatched him with an axe.

It is surprising how much exercise a squad of our small boys can get out of a nut in the top of our English walnut tree. It sometimes takes half a day to secure it, but sooner or later a club hits it just right and it is brought to earth.

Our library is fast approaching the four thousand mark. The shelf room is already full and the sectional cases placed in the chapel during the spring by our wood workers are largely taken up. It will not be long ere we will need more library space.

There have been but two or three changes in our monitors, the present members being Robert Logan, Charles Quigley, Carmine Pace, John Dunning, and Arthur Blake for the boys and Mary Sommers, Minnie Brickwedel, Annie Bissett and Louisa Duer for the girls. With these representatives of our boys and girls as adjuncts to our staff, the matter of care and discipline will, we are assured, receive every attention.

Mary Mendum spent several days with Annie Mayer and Mary Sommers at Swedesboro and was at Wildwood a week, and at both places her stay was rich with funny experiences. She says that on one occasion, her sister Bella fell overboard, and at another time she came pretty near being caught by a big crab. She also became acquainted with a deaf young lady named Hortense Durand, who was educated at a French school.

During the summer Mr. Newcomb discovered a large hornet's nest under one of the dormitory windows. Realizing what bad tenants they might be later on, he reached out, one day, with a club, and gave it a great big swat, immediately closing the window. The hornets, in their efforts to get at him, came zipping against the window like so many shot, while Mr. Newcomb stood inside calmly watching their discomfiture. Strangely enough, the hornets left at once, making no attempt to rebuild.

A Barbecue on Pike's Peak, in 1910?



THAT BARBECUE, 1910

(From the Deaf American.)

[Among the social features which the Colorado Local Committee is planning for the great World's Congress in 1910, is a barbecue. The muse of our poetaster has been so stirred, by the delights to be anticipated, that she has prompted him to send in the following lines:]

On the Peak's flank a spot was found,
Sheltered by canyon-walls around,
And fragrant fir and balsam fine,
Lest the sun's rays too hotly shine
Upon that jolly barbecue.

And days before, the trench was digged,
And days before, the steel-rails rigged,
And days before, the oxen brought,
The sheep, and pigs, and fat calves sought
To roast whole at that barbecue.

And loaves, and cakes, innumerable,
All piled on flat rocks for a table;
And coffe hot, from steaming pot,
And soda from Manitou got,
And bacon sizzling on the stick,
And eggs and wieners, and the pick
Of the whole larder, through and through,
To be served at that barbecue!

And watch the cooks!
All with blythe looks!
Chief Argo there, Winemiller here,
And Mount and Kent, in wild career,
And Jones and Bates, with aprons flying,
And caps askew, and each one vieing,
That every guest should get his fill,
And hunger's craving should be still
All at that jolly barbecue!

A day in Eden it will be,
With hearts all kind and thoughts all free;
And every one will softly scan
The foibles of each brother man.
A blessing on that barbecue!

The knocker will forget to knock,
The pessimist forget to shock,
His neighbor, there, the optimist,
And so 'twill be, through the whole list,
All at that jolly barbecue!

And see them, each, an honored guest,
Who came with us, in double quest,
To share the feast and join the mirth,
Here, in this primeveal spot of earth,
All at that "bully" barbecue!

Our benefactor will be here,
With smiles his kindly visage clear,
And once again we shall have met
Our noblest friend, our Gallaudet,
All at that jolly barbecue!

There Smith and Cloud go arm in arm,
The past forgotten in the charm
Of sunny hearts and sunny weather,
When friend and foe hobnob together,
A blessing on that barbecue!

And Gray and Fox and Hotchkiss, wise,
And even Hodgson, see, arise!
To wish of life a healthy span
To Russell Smith's *American*!
Oh! "bully" for that barbecue!

And "Johnny, dear," that featherweight,
With gallant Oscar for his mate,
And Hasenstab and Gibson bland,
Michaels and Martin, hand in hand,
Will be "at that there barbecue!"

And Ritter, Howard, Harrison,
And Morrow, Berg and Robinson,
Hanson and Axling from the West.
Long, Allabough, and all the rest,
Assembled at that barbecue!

And ladies, bright from every clime
Of this broad country, and who chime
With laughter and such winsome wiles,
That Cupid is all wreathed in smiles.
Oh! what a jolly barbecue!

The elect-deaf you there will see,
They'll elbows rub with you and me,
From near and from beyond the sea,
All, high or low, shall welcome be,
Oh! "bully" for that barbecue!

"Pike's Peak, or bust!" then yell we must,
And let us gather in the "dust,"
To take us there and have our share
In the long, merry bill of fare
Of that big, bully, barbecue!

—Jay Schuyler, Poet of the Rockies.

A FRIENDLY WARNING.

The "Poet Laureate of the Rockies" sings
"A Barbecue on Pike's Peak,"
Forgetting in his hasty zeal
Some people's heart is weak;
And while their courage is first-class,
Like many tourists they,
Might in that lofty altitude
"Keel over," faint-away.

And other people, we are told,
Who dared to scale that height,
Had nose-bleed, till their guides, and friends,
Were trembling with affright.
So he, the "Poet," and the rest,
Who with him, dare to climb,
Should take a lot of handkerchiefs,
To use at any time

And wont it be a thrilling sight,
To watch the hungry crowd
Mopping their bleeding noses,
(Faces white as sheet, or shrowd),
So ere he writes more "Barbecue,"
And more "Pike's Peak or bust,"
He should think of the weak people,
And to their rights be just.

But if he scorns advice, and climbs
That wondrous, world-famed height,
Sure in his own self confidence,
All will be safe, be right;
We whose dear kindred have been there,
And know whereof they tell,
Will stay at home, and think it fine,
To be alive and well.

ANGELINE FULLER FISCHER.

From Manitou a cog-road hauls passengers to the summit of Pike's Peak, elevation 14,108 feet; one station is in the town, the other is a mile and a half higher. This cog-road is the best of cogs used in mountain climbing, but where the ascents of Mount Washington and of the Rigi end, that of Pike's Peak begins—the Manitou station being already over 6,000 feet up. From the top the view is superb beyond words. The world lies spread below, and the eye wanders over mile after mile of plain and range. Ascent of the Peak can also be made afoot or by horse, following a good trail.

The Story of a Deaf-Blind Man's Work for His Kind.

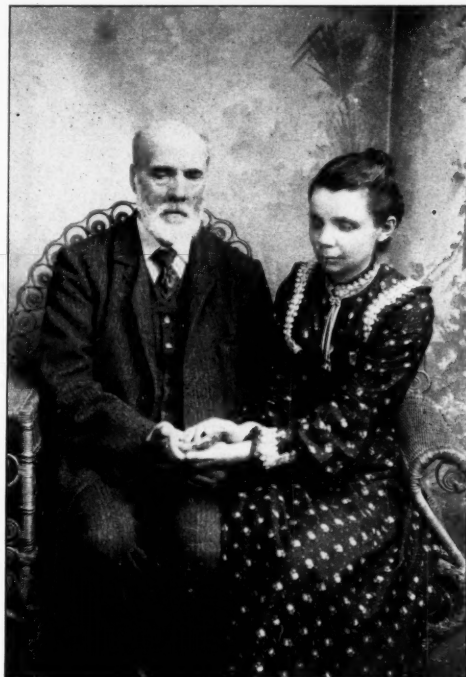
IN his daring, and, in a certain sense, pseudo-scientific forecast of the future, 'Anticipations,' H. G. Wells imagines the men of his "New Republic" as "having an ideal that will make the killing worth the while"—those to be killed being the afflicted and helpless; and the 'ideal,' a perfect race of men. Laying aside the fascinating volume, one may ask if the afflicted, the helpless, and the heavily-burdened contribute nothing in the day's march towards the glowing ideal; if the art, literature, politics, and, beyond all these, the moral and spiritual life of men are not toned and helped forward to better things, towards the grand *ultimate* ideal, by these seemingly imperfect ones? As night follows day, and the fairy elves of spring tread upon the hem of winter's dark cloak, so is life made up of eternal contrasts: by sorrow's touch alone can we understand joy; by the contrast of evil alone do we comprehend the purity of good; and by the iron reality do we get our dreaming ideals. If we delete one factor, we have no premise that the other will remain to us; so, in killing to attain an ideal of human perfection, the men of the "New Republic" may destroy the ideal itself!

Out of silence and night, for he is both deaf and blind, a man, Edwin Norris, has sent me the story of his life, and, in some degree, the story of his striving and work for the blind and deaf-blind. In these sheets, typed by one whose eyes could not see the keys, and whose ears were deaf to the click of type bars, there is a ringing message for the wide world of men; for here is a life rising above heredity's taint and chain to a noble work; a soul upon which the Master's hand seems to have placed breaking the burdens, yet in unfaltering faith it follows without question, and month by month sends that Master's living Word across the world. By a life and faith such as this we are drawn nearer the goal than centuries of scientific elimination can bring us.

Born in 1841 in a small Wiltshire village, Edwin Norris was most decidedly the child of an adverse hereditary. His parents were first-cousins; both his father and grandfather suffered from defective sight, while an uncle and an aunt were totally blind—the latter lost her life through her blindness. Although possessing sight and hearing in infancy, Mr. Norris inherited a weak constitution, and has never known really robust health. When three years old he took a heavy cold in the head, which dulled both sight and hearing, and from this period he never again saw or heard perfectly. Until his majority, however, he could read small print, except in a strong light, and up to his thirty-third year, could hear sermons if not too far from the pulpit. Passionately fond of reading, he would often get up at four in the morning in order to read and study, and this, no doubt, tended to his ultimate loss of sight. One morning, when twenty-three, he was reading the New Testament, when, to use his own words, "a muslin curtain seemed to fall over my eyes, and I could not read the finish of the chapter": from that date he has not read ordinary type, though for a few years following he was able to read his own hand writing and to keep accounts.

Until 1870 he had the entire management of his father's business, when, par-blind and dull of hearing, he decided to leave his native village and seek his "fortune"! Being unable to obtain a regular situation, he became a "commercial," needless to say, on commission alone; and there is considerable pathos in the

story of his struggles. He was not able to read the names over shop doors and more often than not entered the wrong one; when the sun was shining brightly "it was like going into midnight-darkness"; he could not see his way to the counter and often turned in the wrong direction, and when he did find the counter he could not always tell if any one was behind it or not. He met with cruel rebuff from unfeeling tradespeople at times, and his earnings barely covered his expenses. Most of his journeys were done on foot, and his food and lodgings were often poor. After struggling for a few years, his weak constitution, undermined by the hard life, threatened to break down altogether and he was forced to take a long rest. Recovering some-



MR. EDWIN NORRIS AND MISS BROOKFIELD,
The Deaf-Blind Editors of *Channels of Blessing*.

what, he made many fruitless attempts to obtain light indoor employment, and at length became the proprietor of a newspaper stand in the streets of London. Here he did fairly well for a time, but the exposure proved fatal to his remaining sight and hearing; both gradually got worse, until he could scarcely see his customers, or hear what they wanted, even though he used an ear-trumpet. Five times he was knocked down by passing vehicles, each time spraining wrists and ankles, and so crippling himself for life, for his hands and feet are weak and misshapen. In July, 1886, he fell from a railway platform and broke his left leg, the severe shock taking away his last poor remnants of sight and hearing. Since that date he has not heard a human voice, nor seen a single face or object. Thus a man's heart rose from disaster but to meet disaster, and over a splendid will darkness and silence fell. But these disasters and this travail, they were but steps towards a life-work.

Just before breaking his leg Mr. Norris had learnt the Moon type, after having gone twenty years without reading a printed word; and while recovering from the effects of his accident he mastered the superior Braille system. He then became a Braille copyist, an employment he followed until 1897, when he left London and went to live at the Home for the

Blind, St. Leonards-on-Sea, where he still resides. While working as a Braille copyist the need for a magazine for the blind, exclusively devoted to religious literature, struck Mr. Norris, and as time went on the need became more and more impressed upon his mind, but he could then only hope and pray that someone would take the work up. When, however, he went to the Home at St. Leonards, and had more time at his disposal, he began to move in the matter. The great difficulty was—and still is—that such a magazine had to be produced and distributed to the blind free of all charge, for very few of them can afford to buy a Braille magazine each month. Although Mr. Norris wanted only eighteen-pence per month to start, he had to wait until a lady interested in the blind very kindly provided the small sum mentioned, when, in January, 1888, he issued eighteen copies of a little Braille booklet of one hundred lines, entitled the *Lamp of Truth and Love*. This booklet Mr. Norris embossed by hand—that is to say he had to emboss each copy—and it was placed in the hands of visitors to the blind, meeting with a warm reception from the people it was intended for, and their friends. Applications for copies of the little magazine began to pour in upon Mr. Norris, and also offers of assistance from lady Brailleists, among the latter being Mr. Norris's present colleague in the work, Miss Ida M. Brookfield. In time quite a little band had gathered around the original worker, and when the circulation had reached fifty copies per month—which by no means represented the actual number of readers, the magazine being passed from reader to reader—it was decided to have the magazine stereotyped, and to change its name to the present title, *Channels of Blessing*. The new series was commenced in October, 1899, the first issue comprising eighty-four copies. The number actually sent out gradually increased, the issue for last month, August, being four hundred and ten copies.

Channels of Blessing, as now issued, is a magazine of fourteen pages in Braille type, twenty-six lines to the page, and embossed upon heavy cartridge paper; its cost, including postage, is about four pence per copy. It goes out to the blind all over the world, and its readers may be numbered by the thousand, for it is regularly passed from one to another. Many of these blind readers are, like Mr. Norris, deaf; they cannot get benefit from ordinary services, and their eyes are sealed to every day devotional literature; to these people *Channels of Blessing* come as a priceless boon, and is aptly named. The magazine is edited by Mr. Norris and Miss Brookfield, and is sent free to all applicants. Some of its readers give or collect more than the cost of the copies they receive; and few send the exact cost; but the majority can offer little or nothing, they are far too poor. Thus, the work has to depend in a very large measure upon the active sympathies of those possessing the great gift of sight.

Miss Brookfield, Mr. Norris's co-worker, is both deaf and blind, and a Braille copyist by profession. She joined Mr. Norris in his work some eight years ago, and is devotedly attached to the magazine. This same lady is also Hon. Secretary of the Braille News Club, which, however, I hope to describe later on.—*Paistin Fionn, in British Deaf Monthly.*

Now is the time to renew your subscription to this paper. It is worth all you pay for it and more too.



National Fraternal Society of the Deaf

(CHARTERED BY THE STATE OF ILLINOIS)

"The FRAT" DEPARTMENT

Edited by FRANCIS P. GIBSON, Room 3, 79 S. Clark St., Chicago, Ill.
[To whom all communications should be addressed.]



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Editorial

Louisville—1909.

The attention of our members is called to the *Deaf American* editorial which we print in this issue.

Our growth is slow but sure. An average of ten new members per month is the record from January to June.

\$1,250 paid for sick and accident benefits represents the record of that department from August 1907 to July 1908.



WILLIAM C. FUGATE
Secretary of Louisville Division

Our contributors will please remember that news notes intended for this Department should reach Mr. Gibson on or before the 5th of the month.

News items or communications of any kind intended for this department, changes of addresses, etc., should always be sent direct to Mr. Gibson.

Headquarters will be pleased to send to anyone interested printed matter touching on the objects of the N. F. S. D. and some of the things it has accomplished.

The laws of mortality are immutable and must be heeded, and no rates can be permanent, nor can any society long exist, that neglects to observe them.
—Chariot.

Fraternal protection should appeal strongly to the young man of to-day. It is within the reach of all, is growing more and more popular and is a certain and sure protection—Chariot.

Louisville Division is still "cutting notches" in its convention fund and to judge by what we hear from that vicinity those who attend the convention there will have a fine demonstration of real old southern hospitality as a part of their experiences.

Our Society continues to gain friends right along—quite a difference, when we look back to the strenuous first years of its existence. If it has any enemies to-day they are most likely men who have tried to work it for some selfish or unworthy purpose and who were found out and shown up.

Our members will be sure to welcome the re-appearance of the *SILENT WORKER*, many having overlooked the notices of its summer "vacation" and enquired as to their failure to receive the August and September issues. From now until July, 1909, it will be sent to every member of the Society in place of *The Frat*.

Several deaf men have succeeded in getting into hearing lodges. There are, if we are not mistaken, three in the Knights of Pythias, five in the Ancient Order of United Workmen, six in the Red Men, and several in the Woodmen of the World. Several years ago a Fraternal Society of the Deaf was launched. It is now in a very prosperous condition.
—Silent Success.

The impression seems to have gone out that Messrs. Morin and Maynard who drew some comparisons between the N. A. D. and the N. F. S. D. in the *SILENT WORKER* articles last summer, are members of our organization and their arguments taken as coming from parties so interested. Neither gentlemen are members and their statements should be taken as their own, not ours.

One unwritten rule of the officers of the N. F. S. D. has been the paying of strict attention to its business along the exact lines laid down in its charter. It has no affiliations with any other organization, and should make none as a body. This policy has the support of its membership, and has also had the approval of many a well-wisher on the outside, so it is not likely that it will be changed. However, no restriction as to individuals identifying themselves with other organizations are laid down with our rules; that being a question solely their own.

The good words for the N. F. S. D. which George W. Veditz, President of the National Association of the Deaf and editor of the *Deaf American*, utters in the editorial we reproduce elsewhere are appreciated, indeed. We print it in full so all our members may have the opportunity to read how others see us. The "suggestion" he makes is a good one and one which our Law Committee may well give consideration as being an acceptable addition to that part of our ritual concerning burials.

The Society has never claimed to be perfect and has made changes in its laws right along as conditions warrant or demand. Suggestions for its betterment, whether from the inside or outside, are always welcome.

In the *SILENT WORKER* of July Mrs. Augusta K. Barrett credits the editor of this Department with being the organizer of the N. F. S. D. In justice to the real organizers, an enthusiastic, hustling party of Michigan boys, he is obliged to dodge the bouquet appreciative though it is. That honor—the founding of our Society—belongs to a party of Flint school boys. The original copy of the constitution and by-laws show that the Society was originated in 1898, organized and incorporated in 1901. The original officers and founders still on the rolls of the Society are: Peter N. Hellers (who has certificate No. 1), John Polk (2), Alexander McCuaig (3), John G. T. Berry (4) Eugene McCall (5), John Myers (6), William T. Minaker (7), Washington Barrow (8), and Frank Spears (9). All but the latter two are still residents of Michigan.

The condolence of the entire membership of the N. F. S. D. will go out to the family of Charles H. Huhn, whose death we chronicle in this issue. The accident was all the more distressing owing to the attending circumstances and that it was due to that "Jauggernaut" of the deaf—"track walking"—is most regrettable. Mr. Huhn was one of Michigan's youngest members and popular with his fraters. That his death should occur through a few moments of forgetfulness or carelessness on his own part is most sad, indeed.

No official action will be taken by the Grand Division as to a possible death claim from the beneficiary of the late Charles H. Huhn until the Detroit Division has acted upon it. Due notice will be given out by the headquarters of such action as soon as full details are received.

Special Law Committee

The following members of the Board of Directors of the Grand Division are appointed a Special Law Committee to receive and arrange for presentation to the Louisville Convention such additions and amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws as may be submitted by Divisions or individual members between now and July 1, 1909:

John H. Mueller, Chairman; S. H. Lantz, O. H. C. Angelroth, R. L'H. Long, P. N. Hellers, C. P. Coker, John Shea, Patrick Dolan, Adolph Brizius, J. T. Warren.

Divisions or individual members may submit such changes as they may wish to suggest to the member of the Committee who is nearest to them, or send them direct to the Chairman. In appointing the Committee my idea is to have as many of the changes discussed and arranged in proper order before the Convention as may be possible and so save time and needless discussion during sessions. However, the Committee shall only have powers delegated to it in its decisions as are given in Section 5, Article VI of the By-Laws. Many things will probably be thought of at the Convention which the Committee has not discussed, in which case the usual procedure will be followed there.

J. J. KLEINHANS,
President.

Important Notice

Members desiring to file sick or accident claims should secure from their respective Division Secretary claims blanks for the proper entry of such, not from the Grand Secretary.

Division Secretaries must see that Sections 5 and 7 of Article IX of the By-Laws are fully complied with before sending the claims to the Claims Committee remembering that Adam M. Martin is Chairman of that Committee and so send claims direct to him.

R. L'H. LONG,
Secretary.

Division Notes and Personals

President Henry B. Plunkett, of Milwaukee Division, and Secretary Emil Weller, of Chicago Division, were elected president and treasurer, respectively, of the Wisconsin Association of the Deaf at its meeting in Milwaukee September 3 to 7.

John H. Mueller, who has been employed in Louisville during the summer, left there for Gallaudet College the 12th, to resume his studies in the sophomore class.

Chester Erwin, of Berea, Ky., spent his vacation at Evansville.

Roy Conkling has returned to his Ohio home from Louisville.

The frats of LaSalle and Ottawa, Ill., attended the picnic given at Chicago for the benefit of the Illinois home fund on Labor day.

The Wisconsin reunion at Milwaukee was attended by several of the Chicago frats and those of No. 17 made things pleasant for them during their stay.

Frank M. Schwartz, of Dayton Division, is now a resident of Grand Rapids, Mich.

Roy O. Grimse, of Chicago, has a good position as an engraver in the jewelry department of the big Sears-Roebuck supply house.

George S. Beyer, of Evansville Division, the winner of the prize charm offered by Secretary Long for the most new applications, whose portrait is given in this issue, is a graduate of the Indiana school and resides at Seymour, Ind., where he assists his father on a fruit farm as packer. Mr. Beyer is also quite a cooper, having the record of making a barrel a minute.

Alexander Benoit, of Olathe Division, has opened up a shoe shop at Miltonvale, Kan.

S. H. Lantz and Charles L. Fooshee, of Olathe, Kan., have resigned their positions of supervisor and foreman of the shoe shop at the Kansas school. Mr. Fooshee has accepted a place with the big Heyer



EDWIN O. HERR,
President Louisville Division

factory in Olathe, while Mr. Lantz goes to Kansas City.

Clarence A. Corey is "holding cases" on the Kalamazoo Gazette.

Charles H. Keyser, of Bennings, D. C., is engaged in the grocery business with his father.

John S. Edelen, of Washington, D. C., is back from his vacation and has resumed his work as printer at the Government Hospital for the Insane.

President H. B. Plunkett, of Milwaukee Division, responded to the toast: "The N. F. S. D." at the banquet of the Wisconsin Association for the Deaf at Milwaukee and the "response" he had from the banquetters was so enthusiastic that there's no question as to the popularity of Milwaukee Division and its members with the Badger State deaf.

Toledo Division had a big picnic at Central Grove Park, Labor day.

Flint Division resumed the giving of "pedro parties" September 18, they having proved so popular with the Flint deaf more were asked for.

Financial Secretary's Report

From August 1 to 31, 1908.

RECEIPTS.

Chicago Division.....	\$ 76.30
Detroit Division.....	28.60
Saginaw Division.....	6.60
Louisville Division.....	20.35
Little Rock Division.....	12.65
Nashua Division.....	9.90
Dayton Division.....	11.55
Bay City Division.....	6.05
Cincinnati Division.....	14.85
Evansville Division.....	22.45
Nashville Division.....	37.35
Springfield Division.....	6.05
Olathe Division.....	14.90
Flint Division.....	6.60
Toledo Division.....	8.25
Milwaukee Division.....	9.90
Columbus Division.....	5.50
Michigan City Division.....	4.95

Total Receipts..... \$302.80

DISBURSEMENTS.

Forwarded to Treasurer Barrow.....\$302.80

Treasurer's Report

From August 1 to 31, 1908.

BALANCES.

From Last Statement.....\$4,175.10

RECEIPTS.

Financial Secretary A. M. Martin..... 302.80

Total Balances and Receipts.....\$4,477.90

DISBURSEMENTS.

Sick and Accident Benefits.....	100.00
Salaries, J. J. Kleinhans.....	12.50
" R. L'H. Long.....	12.50
" A. M. Martin.....	12.50
" Washington Barrow.....	12.50
" F. P. Gibson.....	15.50
Office Rent.....	13.00
Organizer's Expenses, A. Brizius.....	2.00
" " J. T. Warren.....	2.00
" " F. A. Lawrason.....	2.00
Frat Mail List.....	1.81
Frat Department Postage and Expenses...	7.00
Office Expenses.....	4.00
Board of Trustees' Postage and Expenses..	2.75
Treasurer's Expenses.....	1.00

Total Disbursements.....\$201.06

RECAPITULATION

Total Balances and Receipts.....\$4,477.90

Total Disbursements..... 201.06

Total Balances, August 31, 1908.....\$4,276.84

Claims Committee Report

For the Month of August, 1908.

J. Morrison, Hodgenville, Ky.....	\$ 45.00
Catarrah of Stomach.	
A. Anderson, Little Rock, Ark.....	15.00
Phymosis.	
F. P. Gibson, Chicago, Ill.....	10.00
Inflammation of Bowels	
G. D. Martin, Little Rock, Ark.....	5.00
Bruised Knee.	
Geo. Williams, Brazil, Ind.....	15.00
Sprained Ankle.	
E. Burch, Indianapolis, Ind.....	10.00
General Debility.	

Total for the month.....\$100.00

Standing of the Funds

As shown by the Treasurer's Semi-annual Report, June 30, 1908.

General, Legal and Expense.....	\$ 880.61
Benefit—Sick and Accident.....	329.28
Reserve	1,131.71
Emergency—Mortuary	1,098.21
Home	548.85
Special Relief.....	21.05

Total Funds, June 30, 1908.....\$4,009.71

Distribution of Balances

Semi-annual Statement Showing Depository and Amount in Each.

Cash in Treasurer's Hands.....	\$ 25.93
Royal Trust Co.—Checking Account....	842.60
Royal Trust Co.—Savings Account.....	505.26
Northern Trust Co.—Savings Account...	636.73
Illinois Trust Co.—Savings Account.....	1,042.45
Hibernian Bank—Savings Account.....	935.69
First Savings Bank—Savings Account....	21.05

Total Balances, June 30,\$4,009.71

Certificates Void

379—Charles H. Holland, Saginaw, Mich.

(Continued on following page.)

List of Applications

Joseph W. Ferg, (Louisville).....Louisville, Ky.
J. Oscar Bibb, (Chicago).....Charlestown, Mo.
Lewis E. Snyder, (Evansville)....Fort Wayne, Ind.
Grover C. Bowling, (Nashville)...Knoxville, Tenn.

The N. F. S. D.

(Editorial in the Deaf American, Sept. 3, 1908.)

The August issue of *The Frat*, the official organ of the National Fraternal Society of the Deaf, gives among other interesting data the full roster of membership of the society.

All told, it numbers a round 570 members in good standing, grouped in several subdivisions and confined principally to the Middle West.

As its name implies, it is a mutual benefit association yielding sick benefits of \$5 weekly and \$500 to his heirs on the death of a member.

Changes in the constitution and regulations will be submitted at the convention in Louisville in 1909 that, if adopted as we have small doubt they will be, should place this organization on the same plan with similar organizations of the hearing.

The chief reason why the writer has not applied for membership is that he already carries all the life insurance he is in a position to assume.

Apart from its life insurance feature, there are other things which should make membership in the N. F. S. D. peculiarly attractive to the deaf. We know of no other organization of their own that has welded them more thoroughly together and has better disseminated the fraternal spirit among them. The numerous picnics and social and business meetings held by the members and of which we see constant mention in the news columns of *The American* are evidence of this.

As it is to-day, it is the strongest and most coherent organization of the deaf existing in America. We are free to believe that with the adoption of the constitutional changes to be submitted at Louisville, and with honest and capable management, it is bound to become the most powerful fraternal and social organization of the deaf in the world. We can think of no kindred organization among the hearing to which it could better be likened than the B.P.O.E.—the Benevolent and Patriotic Order of Elks or, as they call themselves, the Best People on Earth!

We would venture one suggestion: Why not adopt a burial ritual somewhat like that of the Masonic Order? We have attended the funeral of friends where after the regular service at the house or at the church, the ceremonies at the grave were according to the Masonic rite, and seldom have we seen any thing more solemnly beautiful and impressive. It was the consignment of dust to dust, ashes to ashes of the mortal remains of a friend by his friends.

Such a ritual, if adopted by the N. F. S. D., would serve to make it more fraternal and link its members closely together still. His division associates would all assemble equipped with full regalia as the last mark of honor to a departed member, and at the last resting-place all could see and all could take part in the final solemn rites.

They would thus be bound together in death as in life.

There would be lodges eventually established in every large city because of this feature alone; the N. F. S. D. would become in a way as familiar to the public mind as the Masonic fraternity; the Society would gain immeasurably in prestige; and, best of all, the public appreciation of the deaf would infinitely increase by seeing them indicate their respect for their duties to the living by thus discharging their duties to the dead.

This is a suggestion merely, deferentially tendered by an outsider, who is nevertheless a well-wisher and friend of the N. F. S. D. as a whole, and of many of its members individually.—George W. Veditz.

Anybody may be cheated in a horse trade, but it is wrong to wreak one's revenge on the horse.

One of the serious problems with which all societies like ours must contend is the matter of suspensions. For some reason people will in good faith join a fraternal society and then after a brief time allow themselves to become suspended. We are inclined to the belief that habit has much to do with this. Some of us have acquired the pernicious habit of never doing today the thing we can put off until tomorrow. And habits once formed can be broken only with difficulty. This habit of procrastination causes many to postpone their monthly payment and dues. They can take care of these things today, but the habit given above is so overpowering they defer the doing until tomorrow, a day they never see. If we can teach the new member the duty of paying early in the month the problem of looking after suspensions will have been reduced to the minimum.—

The story of the birth, rise and progress of fraternalism is one of constantly increasing interest to the men of this enlightened age. Born with a love and desire to be helpful to humanity, it probably has done more real good in a practical way than any other effort that has been launched by man for the furtherance of benevolence and helpfulness. Its benevolent teachings and its upright principles has made it appeal to the heart of man, until it has gained such popular favor and prominence that its continued success is an evident conclusion.—*The Chariot*.

True Fraternalism does not bother itself about the cut of a man's clothes, but looks at the man inside the clothes.—*National Union*.



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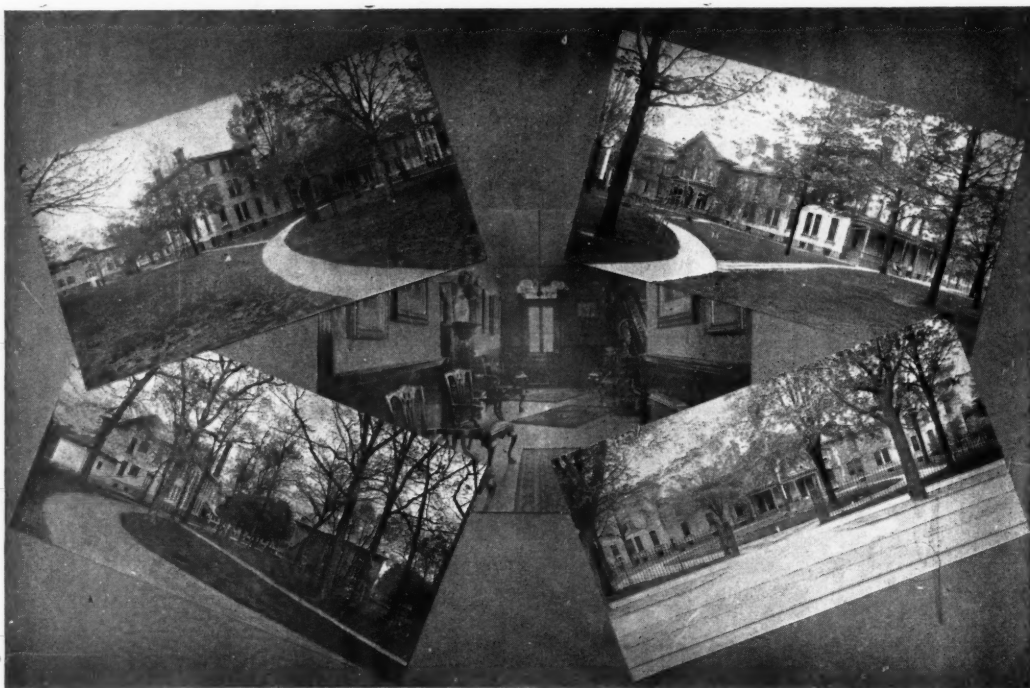
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